

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01069 051459Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-20 ACDA-12 SSM-05 IO-14 /129 W
-----026782 051744Z /43

R 051106Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 974
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
USUN MISSION NY 0607

UNCLAS LIBREVILLE 1069

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, AG, GB, SS, LE
SUBJ: ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISIT TO GABON

1. ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTEFLIKA ARRIVED LIBREVILLE
AFTERNOON MAY 3 BY SPECIAL AIRCRAFT WITH SMALL DELEGATION.
FOLLOWING DAY BOUTEFLIKA MET WITH PRESIDENT BONGO AND
DELIVERED MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE. MEETING,
DESCRIBED BY PRESS AS LONG, COVERED BOTH
BILATERAL PROBLEMS AND THE WESTERN SAHARA.

2. DURING SHORT PRESS CONFERENCE, BOUTEFLIKA EXPRESSED
SKEPTICISM THAT THE OAU SPECIAL SUMMIT ON
WESTERN SAHARA WOULD BE HELD. ADDING THAT THERE ARE
NEITHER MAJOR NOR MINOR MATTERS IN DISPUTE BETWEEN
MORROCCO AND ALGERIA, BOUTEFLIKA STATED PROBLEM OF THE
WESTERN SAHARA IS PROBLEM OF DECOLONIZATION INVOLVING
BOTH THE OAU AND UN. AFTER BRIEFLY REVIEWING STANDARD
ALGERIAN POSITION ON NEED FOR SELF-DETERMINATION IN
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PAGE 02 LIBREV 01069 051459Z

WESTERN SAHARA, BOUTEFLIKA CRITICIZED "INTERVENTION OF
OPERATIONAL FRENCH MILITARY UNITS "AS A COMPLICATING
FACTOR IN THE REGION.

3. BOUTEFLIKA ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT AN ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR
TO GABON HAS BEEN NAMED AND WILL ARRIVE SOON IN LIBREVILLE.
COMMENT FROM THE CONTEXT IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THE

ALTERIAN AMBASSADOR WOULD BE RESIDENT IN LIBREVILLE OR
NOT. END COMMENT.

4. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION CONCERNING UN PEACE KEEPING FORCE
OPERATIONS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON, BOUTEFLIK
SAID THAT HS INTERPRETATION OF THE UN DECISION WAS THAT
THE FORCE WOULD BE USED TO REPEL ISRAELI ATTACKS AGAINST
LEBANON NOT TO CONTAIN PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE.TIENKEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LIBREV01069
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780192-0783
Format: TEL
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780589/aaaacyfm.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 11cacba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2779935
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISIT TO GABON
TAGS: PEPR, AG, GB, SS, LE, (BOUTEFLIKA, ABDELAZIZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/11cacba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014